Claims

1. A method for handling event triggers and re-authorization triggers in flow based charging, comprising:

(A) TPF determining whether the bearer event matches an event trigger, if it matches, proceeding to step B, and otherwise, proceeding to step C;

(B) TPF requesting the charging rules from CRF;

(C) TPF determining whether the bearer event matches a re-authorization trigger, if it matches, the TPF performing a re-authorization process, and otherwise, ending the current process.

2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said step B comprises: TPF requesting CRF for a charging rule, and CRF returning to TPF a selected charging rule.

3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said step B further comprising: TPF providing CRF with the bearer event currently occurred.

4. The method according to Claim 2, wherein, if TPF determines that the bearer event matches an event trigger, wherein said step B further comprising: said TPF determining whether said charging rule provided by CRF is changed, if it does, the TPF performs a re-authorization process, and otherwise, proceeding to step C.

5. The method according to Claim 4, in said step B, if the TPF determines the charging rule provided by CRF is changed, before the TPF performing a re-authorization process, further comprising: TPF determining whether a re-authorization is needed due to the changed charging rule, if it is, TPF performing a re-authorization process, and otherwise, proceeding to step C.

6. The method according to Claim 4, in said step B, if the TPF determines a re-authorization is needed due to the changed charging rule, before the TPF performing a re-authorization process, further comprising: TPF determining whether the bearer event currently occurred matches a re-authorization trigger, if it matches, TPF performing a re-authorization process, and providing OCS with the bearer event currently occurred, and otherwise, TPF only performing a re-authorization process.

7. The method according to Claim 4, wherein said performing a re-authorization process further comprising: TPF providing OCS with the changed charging rule.

8. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said performing a re-authorization process in step C further comprising: TPF providing OCS with the bearer event currently occurred.

9. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said performing a re-authorization process comprises: TPF requesting re-authorisation of the credit in the OCS, and further OCS returning to TPF the authorized credit.

10. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said event triggers are provided to TPF by CRF.

11. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said re-authorization triggers are provided to TPF by OCS or via CRF by OCS.